Capacity of nuclear power reactors

*352. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided that the unit size of the future power reactors in the country be increased to 700 MW capacity instead of 250 MW or 540 MW capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what important project implementation strategies have been adopted by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India to reduce the construction period of atomic plants in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) beyond those presently under construction (unit sizes of 220 MWe and 540 MWe) are planned to be of 700 MWe unit size, based on scaling up of 540 MWe unit design. The reactor core in 700 MWe design is same as in 540 MWe and only a few small changes have been made in other nuclear systems. Design and development works on 700 MWe PHWRs are in an advanced stage.

(c) Strategies being adopted in the construction of projects under construction for reducing construction time are as follows:

- Completion of pre-project activities in design and development of site infrastructure before commencing the construction of the project.
- Timely manufacture of components/equipment in the context of the experience gained in the field.
- Adopting the concept of large supply-cum-erection packages to the extent feasible.
- Increased use of automation in the construction.
- Strengthening project management techniques and monitoring mechanism for controlling schedule.

Investment by MTNL

*353. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. propose to invest Rs. 1200 crore during the current fiscal year for developing telephone infrastructure; if so the details thereof;

(b) whether the investment would be made to develop infrastructure in two circles, namely Delhi and Mumbai;

(c) if so, what targets have been fixed; and

(d) the extent to which it has been achieved till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Sir, MTNL has planned to invest Rs: 2284 crore during the current fiscal year for developing telephone infrastructure. Details of the financial outlay are as under :

Sl.No.	Particulars	Rs. (in crores)
(i)	Switching (including TAX/Tandem) and Access lines (including CDMA/WLL Handsets, GSM) in existing and new areas	800
(ii)	IT related services	76
(iii)	Replacement of E10B technology exchange equipment	158
(iv)	International long distance operations	100
(v)	Expansion in New Service areas abroad and in India	1150
	TOTAL	2284

(b) Sir, besides investment being made to develop infrastructure in two metros Delhi and Mumbai, MTNL as a Navratna company also has a joint venture company, namely M/s United Telecom Limited with VSNL, TCIL and a local partner in Nepal, for providing CDMA based WLL service in Nepal.

(c) and (d) Sir, the targets fixed for 2003-2004 and achievements during the quarter ending June, 2003 are as under :—

Sl.No.	Items	Target planned for 2003-2004	Achievement during the Ist quarter
1.	Provisioning of net switching capacity for WLL & GSM	400K	3.394K
2.	Replacement of E-10B switches	395K	55.35K
3.	To provide new TAX/ Tandem lines	50K	4K
4.	Commissioning of DLCs	200	4
5.	Optical Fibre Cable (in Kms.)	20,000	3879.12